

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 015453 TOSEC 010105

63

ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 015453 TOSEC 010105

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, US, IS

SUBJECT: INFORMING THE ISRAELIS OF OUR FY-77 PLANNING
FIGURES

REF: ACTION MEMO S/S 7601088: INFORMING THE ISRAELIS OF
OUR FY-77 PLANNING FIGURES

FROM ATHERTON

1. OMB HAS PUBLISHED TODAY IN AN APPENDIX TO THE BUDGET
FOR FY 77, THE DOLS 1 BILLION PLANNING FIGURE FOR FMS
CREDITS FOR ISRAEL (BUT NOT FOR ANY OTHER COUNTRY), CON-
TRARY TO OUR EXPECTATION THAT NO COUNTRY FIGURES WOULD BE
PUBLISHED UNTIL SECURITY ASSISTANCE PRESENTATION IS SENT TO
CONGRESS IN FEBRUARY.

2. THE DOLS 1 BILLION FMS CREDIT FIGURE SHORTLY WILL BE
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. REUTER HAS ALREADY RUN STORY AND WE
HAVE HAD ONE PRESS INQUIRY WHICH WE HAVE MANAGED TO DEFLECT.
WE EXPECT SIGNIFICANT PRESS INTEREST
THURSDAY.
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 015453 TOSEC 010105

3. IN ORDER TO LIMIT DAMAGE WITH THE ISRAELIS, WE BELIEVE
IT IS URGENT THAT WE INFORM THE ISRAELIS OF OUR FY-77
PLANNING FIGURES NOW ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN THE
REFERENCED ACTION MEMORANDUM, SINCE THEY WILL ALMOST CER-

TAINLY LEARN OF THE FIGURES THROUGH OTHER SOURCES IF THEY
HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR AUTHOR-
IZATION TO DO SO. SISCO

SECRET

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